

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0149

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, MNUC

SUBJ: NUCLEAR ASPECTS OF NUNN AMENDMENT

REF: A. STATE 243797

B. USNATO 6799

C. USNATO 6945

1. MISSION UNDERSTANDS THAT MILITARY COMMITTEE PLANS TO COMPLETE BY JANUARY 27 ITS REVIEW OF SHAPE ASSESSMENT OF NUCLEAR ASPECTS OF NUNN AMENDMENT WHICH SACEUR PLANS TO FORWARD BY JANUARY 15 TO MC. WE FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT IS IS ALREADY PREPARING A DRAFT ISSUE PAPER WHICH SYG LUNS MAY DECIDE TO CIRCULATE TO HELP FOCUS DISCUSSION BY NPG PERMREPS. SINCE THE CHAIRMAN, MC PLANS TO FORWARD SACEUR'S ASSESSMENT TO PERMREPS AT THE SAME TIME THAT IT GOES TO MIL REPS (I.E., ABOUT JANUARY 15), AND IF REPEAT IF ALLIES PROVIDE THEIR NATO AMBASSADORS WITH TIMELY POLITICAL GUIDANCE, IT MAY BE POSSIBLE FOR NPG PERMREPS TO MEET AS EARLY AS WEEK OF FEBRUARY 3 TO BEGIN TO ADDRESS POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS PRIOR TO DRAFTING ASSESSMENT.

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2. UNDER CURRENT PLANS, NPG (AT PERMREP LEVEL) WILL BE PRINCIPAL FORUM FOR EXCHANGE OF ALLIED POLITICAL VIEWS, AS INDICATED IN SYG LUNS' PO OF DECEMBER 4 ON THIS SUBJECT (REF B), AND IN AGREED MINISTERIAL MINUTE FROM

DECEMBER 10 NPG MINISTERIAL MEETING (REF C). IT APPEARS TO US THAT MISSION COULD ADOPT EITHER: (A) A RELATIVELY PASSIVE ROLE, LETTING OUR ALLIES TAKE THE LEAD IN IDENTIFYING AND EXPLORING KEY POLITICAL ISSUES DURING NPG CONSULTATIONS, ON THE THEORY THAT IT IS, IN EFFECT, A MEANS FOR TRANSMISSION OF ALLIED VIEWS TO THE US; OR (B) AN ACTIVE ROLE IN WHICH THE MISSION ACTS AS FULL AND CONSTRUCTIVE PARTICIPANT BY GUIDING DEBATE TO THOROUGH EXAMINATION OF ALL MAJOR POLITICAL ISSUES AND BY THEN CONVINCING ALLIED GOVERNMENTS TO REACH CONCLUSIONS COMPATIBLE WITH CURRENT U.S. OBJECTIVES.

3. MISSION BELIEVES ALLIES WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY LOOK TO US TO ENGAGE IN FULL EXCHANGE OF POLITICAL VIEWS AND TO CONSULT CANDIDLY IN RESTRICTED NPG FORUM JUST AS IT HAS DONE IN THE PAST. MISSION WILL THEREFORE NEED EXTENSIVE BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND POLICY GUIDANCE ON WHICH TO DRAW IN DISCUSSIONS WITH ALLIES IN BOTH FORMAL AND INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS HERE.

ACTION REQUESTED: POLITICAL ASPECTS OF NUCLEAR PORTION OF NUNN AMENDMENT.BRUCE

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